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Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Note verbale dated 13 July 2007 from the Minister Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and has the honour to refer to the note verbale dated 29 June 2007 addressed to him by the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations (A/AC.154/376) regarding the inability of the head of the Sudanese delegation to the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development to attend the session because he was not granted a United States entry visa.

At the 233rd meeting of the Committee, held on 9 July 2007, the United States delegation expressed its regret that His Excellency Ahmad Babiker Ahmad Nahar, Minister of the Environment and Urban Development, was not accorded a visa in time for the meeting. The United States delegation further noted that a visa had not been denied. Had the United States Mission been informed that the Minister's visa request was still pending at the time of his planned departure, it would have recommended to the appropriate host country authorities that corrective action be taken in this regard. In addition, the Deputy Chief of Mission at the United States Embassy in Khartoum has informed the United States Mission to the United Nations that he would be happy to serve as a point of contact for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sudan if such visa delays were to occur in the future.

The United States Mission requests that this note be circulated as a document of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

(*Signed*) Russell **Graham**
Minister Counsellor for Host Country Affairs

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